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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Kehra Cellulose Mill, Estonian Paper Production for the Krasny Obukhov Explosives Plant, Leningrad

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1. "The Kehra Cellulose Mill near the Kehra railway station, 35 km east of Tallin, manufactures cellulose which is shipped to the Leningrad explosives plant Krasny Obukhov. There it is used as raw material.
2. "The Kehra Mill was built in 1917 for the production of sulphate cellulose, chiefly for the paper industry but also for export, mainly to Finland, where it was used in the explosives industry. The mill had 350 workers. Its yearly output averaged 20,000 tons.
3. "The mill came out of World War II undamaged. The Soviets put it into operation in the autumn of 1944, as soon as they occupied Estonia for the second time. Since then they have enlarged the mill considerably. At the beginning of 1954 it had roughly 1200 workers, clerks and technical personnel. Only politically reliable workers are admitted to work at the mill. The percentage of Communists among the workers is substantially larger than at other industrial enterprises. The membership of the CP organization is about 250; at other enterprises this number is usually no more than 10 percent of the total manpower, often considerably less.
4. "The mill is surrounded by a barbed wire fence and guarded by an MVD unit. The workers must produce special passes at the entrance.
5. "The workers of the mill have no information as to whom their enterprise is subordinated. It certainly has no relations with the Estonian authorities. It never engages in Socialist competitions with other enterprises; these competitions occur only among various shops of the mill.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODES

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- 2 -

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6. "The mill is situated in the vicinity of large pine forests. It uses pine alone as raw material. The entire output is shipped to Leningrad by rail. Exact data on the output are not available but it is computed to be around 120,000 tons [per annum?].
7. "The manager of the mill is a Soviet, Viktor Lesnoi. His deputy is (fnu) Tigane, an Estonian. The chief engineer is Karl Veelmaa, also an Estonian. About 25 per cent of the workers are Soviets, who have been brought to Kehra to work there."

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